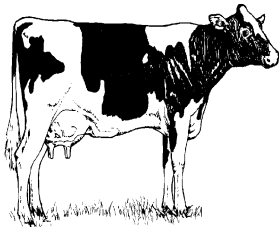


Prices and Income Review



Prices received for crops were generally lower in 2000. Corn, oats, wheat, soybeans, hay and rye were lower compared with 1999, while barley remained unchanged. Marketing year average corn price was down 36 cents per bushel, wheat down 10 cents and soybean prices were 6 cents lower. Corn prices during the 2000 calendar year ranged from a high of \$2.55 per bushel in May to a low of \$1.86 in November. Soybeans peaked at \$5.32 per bushel in May, and hit a low of \$4.43 in August.

Cattle and hog prices improved in 2000, while poultry and milk prices were lower. Prices for steers and heifers were up \$5.70 per hundred pounds from 1999, and \$9.80 from 1998. Beef cow prices were up \$2.80, while calf prices fell \$.50 per hundred pounds. Barrow and Gilt prices rose to \$37.40, up \$7.60 per hundred pounds from 1999. Chicken prices (excluding broilers) averaged 7.4 cents per pound in 2000, down from 7.8 in 1999. The average price received for broilers fell 2 cents per pound in 2000 to 34 cents per pound. The season average of prices received for market eggs fell for the third year in a row, but prices strengthened at the end of the year. The average 2000 price was 50.9 cents per dozen, compared with 51.7 in 1999 and 59.7 in 1998. Milk prices fell \$1.50 per hundred pounds, from \$15.00 to \$13.50. Fresh market vegetables and melon prices were mixed in 2000. Prices received in 2000 increased for



cauliflower, kale, pumpkins, squash, strawberries, and tomatoes. The biggest increase in prices was \$6.00 per hundred pounds for tomatoes, strawberries rose \$5.00 per hundred pounds. Green Pea prices fell \$15.00 per hundred pounds, while snap beans were down \$8.00, greens \$7.00 and cucumbers \$6.00.

